



IRELAND



GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

President Michael D. HIGGINS

Head of Government

Taoiseach (Prime Minister) Leo VARADKAR

Government Type

parliamentary republic

Capital

Dublin

Legislature

bicameral Parliament or Oireachtas consists of the Senate or Seanad Eireann (60 seats) and the House of Representatives or Dail Eireann (158 seats)

Judiciary

Supreme Court of Ireland (consists of the chief justice, 9 judges, 2 ex-officio members)

Ambassador to US

Ambassador Daniel Gerard MULHALL

US Ambassador

Ambassador Edward F. CRAWFORD

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 70,273 sq km

Land: 68,883 sq km

Water: 1,390 sq km

Climate

temperate maritime; modified by North Atlantic Current; mild winters, cool summers; consistently humid; overcast about half the time

Natural Resources

natural gas, peat, copper, lead, zinc, silver, barite, gypsum, limestone, dolomite

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

small, modern, trade-dependent economy continued to grow in 2017; forecast to do so through 2019, supported by a strong export sector, robust job growth, and low inflation

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)

\$353.3 billion (2017 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)

\$73,200 (2017 est.)

Exports

\$219.7 billion (2017 est.)

partners: US 27.1%, UK 13.4%, Belgium 11%, Germany 8.1%, Switzerland 5.1%, Netherlands 4.9%, France 4.3% (2017)

Imports

\$98.13 billion (2017 est.)

partners: UK 29%, US 18.9%, France 12.1%, Germany 9.6%, Netherlands 4.1% (2017)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

5.1 million (July 2018 est.)

Population Growth

1.11% (2018 est.)

Ethnicity

Irish 82.2%, Irish travelers 0.7%, other white 9.5%, Asian 2.1%, black 1.4%, other 1.5%, unspecified 2.6% (2016 est.)

Language

English (official, generally used), Irish (Gaelic or Gaeilge) (official, spoken by approximately 39.8% of the population as of 2016)

Religion

Roman Catholic 78.3%, Church of Ireland 2.7%, other Christian 1.6%, Orthodox 1.3%, Muslim 1.3%, other 2.4%, none 9.8%, unspecified 2.6% (2016 est.)

Urbanization

urban population 63.4% of total population (2019)

rate of urbanization: 1.14% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)

